

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

In ultra-high-speed OTDM transmission systems having bit rates of more than 40 Gbit/s, pulse durations are extremely short. For a 160-Gbit/s system, for example, the time slot for a single bit is only ~~6,25~~6.25 ps wide. As OTDM transmission systems have to use return to zero (RZ) pulses, i.e. pulses that return to zero power level within each time slot, the width of a pulse in ultra-high-speed OTDM transmission systems is even shorter, namely about one half of the time slot width.